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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/582,870	07/06/2000	OSAMU SANO	1560-345P	4434

2292 7590 05/22/2003

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EXAMINER

DEPUMPO, DANIEL G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3611

DATE MAILED: 05/22/2003

27

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/582,870

Applicant(s)
Sano

Examiner
Daniel G. DePumpo

Art Unit
3611



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Apr 9, 2003
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 29-39, 41-43, 56-58, and 74-84 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) 31-33, 41-43, and 56-58 is/are withdrawn from consideration
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 29, 30, 34-39, and 74-84 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 29, 30 and 34-38 are finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuuichi (JP 8104246) in view of Kobayashi '107.

See the rejection of Paper No. 21 (mailed 7/29/02).

3. Claims 39 and 74-84 are finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Yuuichi and Kobayashi as applied to claims 29, 30 and 34-38 above, and further in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (APA).

See the rejection of Paper No. 21 (mailed 7/29/02).

4. Applicant's arguments filed April 9, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant urges that the combination of Yuuichi and Kobayashi would lead to a chamfer arrangement on both the valve body and valve spool. The examiner does not agree. Yuuichi (fig. 8) discloses chamfers at 54 on the sections of the spool lands that are adjacent the pump supply 13/42. Although Yuuichi also shows chamfers on the lands of the valve body (i.e. 38₂ and 38₈), it is noted that Kobayashi discloses chamfers 6 (figs. 4A and 4B) only on sections of the spool posts that are adjacent the pump supply (P). Kobayashi shows that it is not necessary to have chamfers

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on the valve body, or at any other location. Therefore, in view of the teachings of Kobayashi, the examiner considers that it would have been obvious to modify Yuuichi by eliminating the chamfers on the valve body for ease of manufacture (i.e. thereby requiring fewer machining steps) since Kobayashi discloses that the chamfers are only necessary on the sections of the spool posts that are adjacent the pump supply to reduce noise (Kobayashi col. 4, line 6).

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel G. DePumpo whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

dgd
May 21, 2003



DANIEL G. DePUMPO
PRIMARY EXAMINER